

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A support apparatus suitably adapted to support a snowboard having a threaded insert during tuning thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a support member;

a board rest supported a support head mounted on said support member for pivotal movement about a pivot axis; and,

a board-engaging surface extending along said support head generally opposite said support member; and,

an attachment member extending from said board rest supported by said support head and adapted to engage the threaded insert of the snowboard, said attachment member extending generally transverse said pivot axis.

2. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said support member includes a base member suitably adapted to engage a work surface.

3. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said support member includes an upright extending from said base member.

4. (Currently Amended) A support apparatus according to claim 3, wherein suitably adapted to support a snowboard having a threaded insert during tuning thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a support member including a base member suitably adapted to engage a supporting work surface and an upright extending from said base member, said upright includes including a pair of vertical supports in spaced relation to one another forming an opening therebetween;

a board rest supported on said support member; and,

an attachment member extending from said board rest and adapted to engage the threaded insert of the snowboard.

5. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said upright includes an intermediate member secured at least partially within said opening between said vertical supports.

6. (Currently amended) A support apparatus ~~according to claim 1 further comprising~~ suitably adapted to support a snowboard having a threaded insert during tuning thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a support member;

a support head pivotally mounted on said support member;

a board rest supported on said support member; and,

an attachment member extending from said board rest and adapted to engage the threaded insert of the snowboard.

7. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said support head is pivotable through an angle of at least about 180 degrees.

8. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said support member includes an upright at least partially formed from a pair of vertical supports in spaced relation to one another at least partially defining an opening therebetween, and at least a portion of said support head is disposed within said opening.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 6 further comprising a clamping assembly operatively engaging said support head and said support member and adapted to selectively permit pivoting of said support head relative to said support member.

11. (Currently amended) A support apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said support member includes a first clamping hole, said support head includes a second clamping hole in substantial alignment with said first clamping hole, and said clamping assembly includes a clamping member that extends through at least a portion of one of said first and second clamping holes.

12. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said clamping assembly includes a cam shaft engaging said clamping member and a cam lever engaging said cam shaft, said cam lever being positioned adjacent one of said support member and said support head.

13. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said cam lever includes a curvilinear cam surface eccentrically disposed on said cam lever in relation to said cam shaft.

14. (Currently amended) A support apparatus according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 6, wherein said board rest includes a passage extending therethrough and said attachment member extends through at least a portion of said passage.

15. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 14 further comprising a support head pivotally mounted on said support member.

16. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said support head includes a notch adjacent said board rest receiving at least a portion of said attachment member.

17. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 14 further comprising an alignment member extending at least partially into said passage.

18. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said alignment member includes a hole extending therethrough and at least a portion of said attachment member extends through said hole.

19. (Original) A support apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said alignment member has a first axis and said hole has a second axis, said first and second axes being in spaced relation to one another.

20. (Currently amended) A support apparatus for use in tuning a snowboard having a threaded insert, said apparatus comprising:

a support member having a horizontally-extending base member and a vertically-extending upright attached to said base member;

a support head pivotally supported on said upright and having a top wall;

a board rest supported on said top wall and having a board-engaging surface and a passage extending through said board rest along said board-engaging surface; and,

an attachment member extending through said passage and adapted to engage the threaded insert of the snowboard.

21. (Currently amended) A support apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said support head is ~~pivotally supported on said support member~~ adapted for pivotal movement through an angle of at least about 180 degrees.

22. (Currently amended) A support apparatus according to ~~claim 24~~ claim 20 further comprising a clamping assembly operatively engaging said support head and said support member, and adapted to selectively permit pivoting of said support head relative to said support member.

23. (Currently amended) A method of supporting a snowboard having a top surface with a threaded insert, a bottom surface, and a pair of opposing edges, said method comprising steps of:

a) providing a support apparatus having a support member, a support head pivotally mounted on said support member, a board rest supported on said support member head, and an attachment member extending from said board rest and adapted to engage the threaded insert of the snowboard;

b) positioning the top surface of the snowboard adjacent said board rest with the threaded insert ~~aligned with said passage~~ facing toward said board rest;

c) introducing said attachment member into said threaded insert; ~~[[and,]]~~

d) securing the snowboard against said board rest with said attachment member; and,

e) moving the snowboard into a first tuning orientation by pivoting said support head relative to said support member while the snowboard is secured along said board rest.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 23 further comprising a step of substantially aligning said attachment member with said threaded insert prior to step c).

25. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 23, wherein one of the bottom surface and the opposing edges is accessible in said first tuning orientation, said method further comprising a step of repositioning moving the snowboard into a second tuning orientation by pivoting said support head relative to said support member such that another—each of the bottom surface and the opposing edges is accessible while the snowboard is secured to said board rest.

26. (New) A method according to claim 23, wherein step e) is performed without removing said attachment member from said threaded insert.

27. (New) A support apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a clamping assembly operatively engaging said support head and said support member, said clamping assembly adapted to selectively limit pivoting of said support head about said pivot axis.

28. (New) A support apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a board rest supported on said support head.

29. (New) A support apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said board engaging surface extends along at least a portion of said board rest.

30. (New) A support apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said board rest includes a passage extending therethrough and said attachment member extends through said passage.